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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Lorin R. DeBonte, et al.

Art Unit : Unknown

Serial No. : 09/771,904

Examiner : Unknown

Filed : January 29, 2001

Title : FATTY ACID DESATURASES AND MUTANT SEQUENCES THEREOF

Box Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 32-34 and 43.

Please amend claims 4, 44 and 45 as follows:

B¹ 4. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising a sequence of at least about 10 nucleotides from a Brassicaceae delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation in a region of said desaturase gene encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif, wherein said at least one mutation renders the product of said desaturase gene non-functional and wherein said sequence includes said at least one mutation.

B2 44. (Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein said identifying step comprises identifying a mutation in a His-Glu-Cys-Gly-His amino acid motif.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit

May 14, 2001

Signature

Lisa Johnson

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

Lisa Johnson

Applicant : Lorin R. DeBonte, e
Serial No. : 09/771,904
Filed : January 29, 2001
Page : 2

Attorney's Docket No. 07148-063003 / A15-505.35

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can. 45. (Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein said producing step h) comprises
producing seeds yielding an oil having an a-linolenic acid content from about 0.5% to about
10%.
